

COUNTRY Eastern Germany  
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TOPIC Military Information from the Altengrabow Troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 16 to 25 August 1952

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED 30 September 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 2

ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

DO NOT CIRCULATE

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1. On 21 August 1952, the northern camp at the Altengrabow troop training grounds was occupied by between 800 and 1,000 soldiers and was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets. There was little activity. About 50 soldiers received training on eight 160-mm mortars in the adjoining training area.

\* Between 35 and 40 guns were sheltered in several wooden sheds at the gun parking lot southwest of the northern camp. Between 100 and 150 motor vehicles were lined up between the adjoining garages.

Four tank chassis were being utilized for drivers training on staked-off courses in the area of the former ammunition depot.

2. On 21 August, 10 to 12 x 122-mm field howitzers and 25 to 30 trucks were parked in the former filling station of the ammunition depot. Troops engaged in fatigue duty were seen between the low wooden buildings. Heavy-caliber guns fired a shot every 8 to 10 minutes with live ammunition from 2 to 4 p.m. A captive balloon, at an altitude of about 300 meters, was stationed about Henlobbese road from about 12 a.m.

3. Altengrabow-Doernitz railroad station area during the period from 16 to 25 August:

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

- 2 -

25X1

At 2:30 a.m. on 16 August. A train carrying 12 x 122-mm field howitzers, an undetermined number of caterpillar tractors and trucks with covered numbers and five boxcars with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia were unloaded.

Between 8 and 9 p.m. on 18 August. Firing of 5 or 6 light AA guns at a single-engine aircraft towing a sleeve target at an altitude of between 1,000 and 1,500 meters. When the aircraft approached, five searchlights took up action and converged as soon as one of them had found the target. Five or 6 light AA guns consecutively fired at the towed sleeve target. Heavy AA guns subsequently fired several shots.

At 11 a.m. on 19 August. Arrival of a train carrying 15 x 122-mm field howitzers and including several boxcars with troops. Fifteen 122-mm field howitzers towed by 10 caterpillar tractors and 5 trucks passed through Dornitz at 6 p.m. proceeding to the camp.

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At 3 p.m. on 25 August. A column consisting of seven trucks each towing a medium-caliber gun and passed through Dornitz, coming from the direction of Rosenkrug and proceeding toward the Camp.

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